

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 9, and add new claim 12. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claim 1 (Currently amended). A piezoelectric acoustic element using a piezoelectric element as a vibration source, comprising:

a hollow casing having at least one opening;

a piezoelectric element that is disposed in said casing, and attached at one end of said piezoelectric element in a longitudinal direction to a side wall of said casing by a support member for pivotal movement with respect to said support member about an axis through said support member, and that bends about said axis when a voltage is applied thereto;

and a diaphragm provided at the opening of said casing;

wherein said piezoelectric element and said diaphragm are joined through a vibration transmitting member.

Claim 2 (Currently amended) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein ~~one end or~~ both ends of said piezoelectric element in a longitudinal direction ~~[[is]]~~are fixed to an inner surface of a respective side wall of said casing through a respective support member.

Claim 3 (Original) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 2, wherein said support member is elastic.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising two or more diaphragms and/or vibration transmitting members that are different as regards at least one of thickness, materials, and size.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising two diaphragms that are arranged opposite to each other so that said piezoelectric

element is in between them, wherein said two diaphragms are joined to said piezoelectric element through respective vibration transmitting members.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising an elastic plate joined to said piezoelectric element, wherein said elastic plate is joined to said diaphragm through said vibration transmitting member.

Claim 7 (Original) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein said piezoelectric element has a laminated structure in which conductive layers and piezoelectric material layers are alternately laminated.

Claim 8 (Original) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein said vibration transmitting member is a spring.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein said diaphragm is [[one]] formed of a film selected from the group consistency of a polyethylene terephthalate film, a polyethersulfone film, a polyester film, and a polypropylene film.

Claim 10 (Original) An acoustic device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1.

Claim 11 (Original) A portable terminal device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1.

Claim 12 (New) The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein said vibration transmitting member is elastic.

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